

COLON CITY A PESTHOLE;  
BUILT ON THE MARGIN OF  
FEVER-BREEDING SWAMP

Eastern Terminus of the Panama  
Canal Described by the Journal's  
Commissioner.

## WILD, NOXIOUS GROWTHS

And Stagnant Water Poison the  
Atmosphere with Their Mias-  
matic Vapors.

## CRISTOBAL COLON POINT

Where the French Spent Millions,  
Like Paradise Compared with  
Native Quarter.

From the Journal's Special Commissioner.

COLON, R. P., Dec. 24.—The Panama Railroad must bear whatever blame attaches to the fact that this little city figures upon the maps of the world. To the same cause is attributable the fact that Colon exists to-day as one of the pestholes of the earth. Seldom, if ever, was the soullessness of corporations more glaringly demonstrated than it is in the case of this town of 2,000 people, for which, if its existence must be endured, there can be wished no better fate than that it might be burned until not so much as one rotten pile under a single rotten bungalow remained, and that it might then be rebuilt.

Before the railroad enterprise was undertaken, more than half a century ago, the mouth of the Chagres river, about six miles to the westward of Colon, was the center of activity on this side of the isthmus. There was the little town of Chagres, well known in the old "forty-nine" days. It was at Chagres that the journey toward California began the perilous ascent of the river of the same name, proceeding by boat as far as Cruces, an inland village now practically nonexistent and nearly forgotten, whence they—or those that were so fortunate as to escape Chagres fever during the river trip—proceeded by means of a cobblestone road to Panama. That road, which once ran from Porto Bello, sixteen miles east of Colon, through Cruces to Panama, was a relic of the "boom days" under the Spanish dominion—days not heard of in any practical way since the eighteenth century. It is now overgrown with all of the tangled masses of this jungle country, utterly impassable, and so far forgotten that it is reliably said that no living man could find his way along its route.

But Chagres was not the place for a railroad terminal. The pernicious fever spread by the miasmatic mists that rose every morning over the Chagres river—mists still visible from Colon in the early hours of the morning—made life there too precarious. Besides, considerations of engineering expediency dictated the selection of this site as the proper one for the railroad terminal, and so Colon came into existence. The city is built upon what was originally an island. The railroad has destroyed the narrow channel which once separated this island from the mainland, and Colon stands upon the western extremity of what is known as the Isle de Manzanilla.

So the cartographers have it, but if we would speak with absolute exactitude we should say that Colon is built upon the western extremity of a peninsula, for so it is in fact. Manzanilla island is a low-lying area of coral formation, the natural surface of which is but eighteen inches above sea level. Upon this island—Colon covers a small portion of it only—there grows all the rank vegetation characteristic of the isthmus. Along the rocky beaches are groves of coconut trees. Further inshore, where the porous soil is fertile, are groves of perpetual dampness, and the soil is found matted, swampy grass and other wild and noxious growths.

The city itself is divided very distinctly into three sections—the railroad quarter, the native quarter and Cristobal Colon Point. The first of these sections, which is the only one fit for a white man to inhabit, and even they are loaded down with disadvantages, is the section known as the "CITY IN A SWAMP."

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(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6, COL. 2.)



VIEW OF A GROUP OF BUNGALOWS IN THE CITY OF COLON.

JAMES LEROY KEACH NO  
LONGER ON MEMBERSHIP  
ROLLS OF INDIANA CLUB

Former Boss Hands in Resignation  
to the State's Democratic  
Organization.

## IS NOT YET ACCEPTED

Declares Lack of Harmony Did  
Not Prompt Him to Take Ac-  
tion—"Tired, That's All."

James L. Keach for a few short months the recognized leader of Indianapolis Democracy and a figure of no little importance in the party until deposed by T. Taggart in the recent fight over the district chairmanship, has tendered his resignation to the Indiana Democratic Club to take effect immediately.

The board of directors of the club, according to Secretary Elliott R. Hooton, president-elect, has taken no action on the resignation. It is probable that the newly elected board of directors will accept it at its first meeting.

Although officers of the club refuse to discuss the resignation it is understood that it comes as a result of the recent chairmanship fight. Keach, it is said, thought that the Taggart faction was doing too much dictating as to the policy of the organization.

Keach said last night that he had decided to resign from the club because he thought a political organization of the kind impracticable in politics. "It was not a lack of lack in harmony, it was simply because I wanted to get out of it," was the statement made by the former boss last night. "I just made up my mind to pay up my dues to the end of the year and cut my name off the roll, that's all."

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(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6, COL. 2.)

RUSSIA MUST REcede  
OR JAPAN WILL BE FORCED  
TO RESORT TO ARMS SOON

Sensational Message Telegraphed  
to Peking at Request of the  
Japanese.

## RUSSIA SHOWS HAND

Virtually Tells the Powers She  
Owns Manchuria—Will Re-  
spect All Treaties.

LONDON, Jan. 12.—The Times' Peking correspondent, cabling under yesterday's date, says that the Japanese minister at Tokio, at the request of the Japanese Foreign Office, telegraphed the following communication to Prince Ching:

"The second Russian reply to the Japanese proposals has been received at Tokio, but it is unfavorable and cannot be accepted by Japan, who will, unless Russia recedes, be compelled to promptly resort to arms. In view of such an eventuality Japan urges and expects China to maintain the strictest neutrality, to preserve order throughout the empire, to guard foreigners resident in the interior, and to take special care to preserve order in the provinces of Shun Tung and Yunnan, lest foreign powers might seize the pretext of disorder and make aggressive movements therein."

The correspondent says that the dispatch has deeply impressed the Chinese, who now believe war to be inevitable. He adds that notes looking to the ratification of the treaty between China and Japan were exchanged yesterday afternoon.

RUSSIA WILL RESPECT  
ALL CHINESE TREATIES

BERLIN, Jan. 12.—The Russian government has informed the powers that it will respect, fully, the rights any nation has in Manchuria, under treaty with China. This declaration is made without reservation. Russia gives formal expression to this policy now in consequence of the controversy with Japan, one of whose persistent contentions has been for a definition of Russia's policy in Manchuria, and an acknowledgment of Japan's trade privileges. Russia's reply has been, in substance, as follows: "We cannot discuss Manchuria with you any more than we could Australia or the Philippines. Manchuria belongs neither to us nor to you. It does not lie within the jurisdiction of either of us to dispose of the future of Manchuria." Russia, however, is willing to observe the treaty rights of all the powers in Manchuria and now engages to do so. Russia, it is added, does not move from the negotiations one of the points upon which Japan counted for the moral support of other powers and whereon she specially had the sympathy of the United States and Great Britain.

LONDON, Jan. 12.—It was said at the Foreign Office to-day that a circular somewhat similar to the synopsis of the Russian position in regard to Manchuria, passed from Berlin to-day, has been received here. Commenting on it, the Foreign Office says that as no power has acquired interest in Manchuria except under treaty with China, it falls to see the force of Russia's circular.

PARIS, Jan. 12.—There is a current of official sentiment was set in motion to-day favorable to strengthening the hands of Russia in her claims to exercise paramount influence in Manchuria. There is reason to believe that the late Russian note makes Russia's attitude and intentions concerning Manchuria and how far she is prepared to recognize Japanese ambitions in Manchuria. The general purport of the Russian note is that Japanese rights and individual shall have the right of free access to Manchuria for purposes of travel and commerce, but that Russia does not wish to have this extended to the colonization of Manchuria in large communities in the future.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2, COL. 6.)

REJOICING ALONG THE  
BANKS OF THE WABASH

Mr. Hemenway's Success in Arous-  
ing Government Interest in the  
River Is the Cause.

## BONFIRES AND SPEECHES

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.  
VINCENNES, Ind., Jan. 11.—The report from Washington that Congressman Hemenway had induced the chief of the United States Engineer Corps to send a board of engineers to the Wabash improvement convention, to be held at Vincennes on the 23d inst., and that the report recommends that \$500,000 be expended on the Wabash between Vincennes and its mouth, has created great rejoicing here and at all river towns.

Bonfires are being kindled, speeches made and general rejoicing all along the Wabash.

RECEPTION FOR THE  
VISITING ENGINEERS

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.  
EVANSVILLE, Ind., Jan. 11.—The local branch of the Ohio Valley Improvement Association met to-night and arranged for a reception to the United States engineers, who will come here on Jan. 22 to receive reports from local business men on the importance of the proposed dam below Henderson, Ky. President Frank Fitton, of the Wabash River Improvement Association, received word from Washington to-day that an appropriation of \$500,000 had been recommended for the improvement of the Wabash river. Ten dams will be built between Mr. Carmel and the mouth of the river.



NOTE—A grocery store once put up a sign that read as follows: "New-laid eggs, 50 cents; fresh eggs, 46 cents; good eggs, 42 cents; eggs, 40 cents. This suggests the difficulty of choosing from the numerous brands of democracy now on the market."

READER PURCHASED BY  
BOBBS-MERRILL COMPANY

New York Publication Passes Into  
Control of Large Indianapolis  
Publishing House.

## IS CLEVER MAGAZINE

To Be Published by Hollenbeck  
Press, of This City, and Will  
Be Issued from Here.

A move of great importance in publishing and literary circles has been made by the Bobbs-Merrill Company, of this city, which has secured control of "The Reader," a New York publication which has recently attracted considerable attention as a magazine of much present worth and great promise.

In the course of the year 1903 they became actively interested in "The Reader," which has been attracting much attention by its cleverness, feebleness and originality.

Some hesitation was experienced, however, because the Bobbs-Merrill Company was unwilling to take any steps in connection with a periodical publication which was not under its immediate editorial and business control and issued from Indianapolis.

Recently the way was opened for the acquisition of the property and the offer was seized with alacrity. The announcement is now made that the headquarters of "The Reader" will, in a very short time, be transferred to this city, and that hereafter it will be published by the Hollenbeck Press, and distributed from this point.

"The Reader" is a monthly of book news and literary comment, belonging to the class of the "New York Review."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6, COL. 5.)

A. S. BUSHNELL SUFFERS  
A STROKE OF APOPLEXY

Former Governor of Ohio Possibly  
Dying in a Hospital at  
Columbus.

## STRICKEN IN CARRIAGE

COLUMBUS, O., Jan. 11.—Just as he arrived at the Union station shortly after 5 o'clock this afternoon to take a train for Springfield, former Gov. Asa S. Bushnell was stricken with apoplexy, and is now in a serious condition. The attending physicians consider his condition most critical and hold out very little hope of his recovery.

Governor Bushnell had been here during the day and was about to take a train for his home in Springfield. His carriage had arrived at the station and the driver, upon opening the door, found him in an almost unconscious condition. Mr. Will Grant, of Springfield, who was passing, recognized the situation, and, jumping into the carriage, had it hurriedly driven to a physician's office and then to the Grant Hospital.

At 11 o'clock to-night, Dr. Loving said: "I have only slight hopes of Mr. Bushnell's recovery."

The former Governor is now surrounded by all the members of his family, whom he recognizes and with whom he is able to converse, but indistinctly, and only by the greatest exertion.

Asa Smith Bushnell was born at Rome, N. Y., on Sept. 25, 1834; moved to Cincinnati with his parents in 1845; received a common school education; since 1861 lived at Springfield, Mass., where he was engaged in the mercantile business and owned his own home.

He is president of the Warder, Bushnell & Gleason Company, of Springfield, Mass., and was formerly president of the One-hundred-and-fifty-second Ohio Infantry in the civil war; chairman Republican State convention, 1885-1890. He is a thirty-third degree Mason and a member of the Grand Army.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6, COL. 5.)

NEGROES TERRIFIED BY  
ARMED MOB AT MUNCIE

Residents of Western Suburb Or-  
dered to Leave Their Homes  
Before Friday Night.

## ASSAULT ON A WOMAN

Arouses the Ire of the Whites, and  
They Issue Their Orders—Ne-  
groes Will Resist.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.  
MUNCIE, Ind., Jan. 11.—A reign of terror was inaugurated among the colored residents of Normal City, the west suburb of Muncie, when forty masked men carrying guns and revolvers to-night appeared at the homes of the seven negro families in the suburb and warned them to move out by next Friday night or suffer the consequences.

The masked men styled themselves as "vigilance committee" and would permit no protests from the frightened negroes, who were threatened with being shot on the spot.

The present trouble arises from an assault made on Mrs. Emmet Hogan, of a well-known white resident of the suburb, last Thursday night by William Hardin, a negro who had lately come into the suburb from Greensburg, Ky. Mrs. Hogan was alone, but her screams frightened him away. When her husband returned he secured his shotgun, organized a small posse and found the negro. He was taken back to the Hogan home, where Mrs. Hogan identified him. Hardin was then made to walk to the police station, the husband following with his gun, accompanied by a large crowd. Hardin confessed and got off with a thirty-days' jail sentence, imposed by Mayor Sherritt, and a fine of \$5. The light sentence angered the fifty residents of the suburb and they have petitioned Judge Lester to have the grand jury investigate the case in order that the negro may be brought before the Circuit Court and given a severe sentence.

The crisis was reached to-night when the vigilance committee was quietly formed and proceeded to order all the negroes from the suburb. The first negro visited was William Hardin, who has always borne a good reputation, and owns his own home. Jordan, terrified, hastily came across Whittier and informed the police of the visit of the masked and armed men. The police made a search of the suburb but could find no clue to the identity of the vigilance committee. Residents of the suburb professed ignorance of the incident.

The report spread rapidly among the 1,000 negroes living in the eastern part of the city, and the police were told that any attempt to drive the colored families out of Normal City on Friday night would meet with resistance.

CUBAN SENATE PASSES  
PERMANENT TREATY

Measure Includes All Provisions of  
the Platt Amendment—Voted  
by Show of Hands.

HAVANA, Jan. 11.—The Senate, after cleaning up legislative business and being in readiness to adjourn until the spring, rushed the ratification of the so-called permanent treaty with the United States. There was no debate and the vote was taken simply by a show of hands. The treaty includes all the provisions of the Platt amendment verbatim. The treaty was signed May 22, 1903, but was not ratified with the other treaties between the United States and Cuba at the close of the last session of Congress.

The Senate passed the amendment to the tariff commission bill and then held open until late to-night awaiting the action of the House upon the bill, and then adjourned to see whether an adjournment will be finally taken to-night.

The advocates of the lottery bill have not risked the attempt to pass the bill over the veto of President Palma on account of the small attendance.

FIGHT IN THE ELEVEN  
DISTRICT AT PERU WILL  
BE CLOSE AND EXCITING

Republican Chairmanship Contest  
Really a Strength Test of Con-  
gressional Rivals.

## BECK HAS ADVANTAGE

Has 61 1-2 Votes to 59 1-2 for  
Neal, and Will Organize  
the Convention.

## REVIEW OF SITUATION

Chairmen to Be Elected in All Dis-  
tricts—Choice of County  
Committees.

Staff Correspondence of the Journal.

PERU, Ind., Jan. 11.—On the eve of the convention for the selection of the Republican State committee from the Eleventh district the convention bids fair to be fully as exciting if not so prolonged as the memorable Wabash convention of 1902 that balloted 1,012 times before Major George W. Steele went down in defeat as a congressional candidate before the opposition that finally united on Frederick Landis.

The situation is practically identical with that at the Wabash convention. The same forces are arrayed and they are marshaled under the same leaders. The stake for which the fight is being waged is not the same, ostensibly. The chairmanship of the district organization is at issue, with Adam L. Beck, of Huntington, and Elam H. Neal, of Jonesboro, as the contestants, but as a matter of fact there is much more involved than the mere chairmanship. It is a trial of strength of the Steele and Landis forces, with a seat in Congress as the prize. This is the curtain raiser, or the preliminary skirmish, to mix metaphors a trifle, and on the result the congressional nomination may turn.

And what will be the result? The question is more easily asked than answered, although, in an answer, one of two answers may be readily obtained from any of the zealous partisans of the two candidates that are thronging the Bears House here to-night. The Beck and Landis forces say that Beck will be elected by 61 1/2 votes to 59 1/2 for Neal. The stalwarts in the Neal and Steele camp reverse the figures and claim Neal's election. Both admit that the fight will be a close one, but that of Mr. Beck claim that the 121 delegates in the convention will be divided as follows:

—Beck—Neal—  
Huntington.....59 Grant.....55  
Wabash.....61 Wabash.....59  
Blackford.....6 Wabash.....59  
Case.....61 Miami.....59  
Miami.....61 Total.....59 1/2  
Total.....61 1/2

## WHAT THE RIVALS CLAIM.

Against the Neal forces claim they will get 13 votes from Miami county, sure, instead of 12 1/2; that they are entitled to and will get at least one-half of one of the votes from Blackford that the Beck people are claiming, and that there are 2 votes in Wabash and 1 vote in Miami of those claimed by their opponents that are in doubt. Out of these 3 doubtful votes they expect to get at least 1, which, with 13 from Miami and 2 1/2 from Blackford, will give them a majority of 2, the same that is claimed by the Beck forces.

On the face of these diverse claims it is readily apparent that there will be two or three contests for seat and perhaps half a dozen, in the convention to-morrow, and that there will be work for the credentials committee. This unquestionably gives the Beck people an advantage, for they will control the organization of the convention, and the credentials committee will be their committee. It is the history of conventions from time immemorial that in crucial situations such as this, the element in control of the credentials committee will win. This is not a question of right so much as it is a question of winning, and, as a matter of fact, in most contests of the kind it is a question of who has the preponderance of force.

People are free to admit that their opponents have the advantage, but they claim that Mr. Beck and his friends will not be re-elected district chairman. This will have a reactionary effect upon Mr. Landis's chances in the congressional fight. The Beck people are now regarded as Beck men and can keep their success in this respect a secret till the roll is called for the vote of the candidates have been placed in nomination.

WORKING LIKE BEAVERS.  
The leaders of both sides are working like beavers to-night, each seeking to make inroads on the other's strength. What some of these efforts, is solely a matter for speculation, but it is certain that the fight in the primaries in the various counties was so sharp that there will be few weak-kneed brothers among the delegates. The Grant county forces descended on Peru this afternoon with a solid Neal halanz, numbering sixty or seventy-five men, and they say they will be reinforced by as many more of their people, who will arrive on a special morning train, to-morrow. If this were a game of football, in which vigorous organized rooting sometimes counts for as much as the strength of the team, the Neal people would have no chance. They are apparently prepared to root. Conspicuous in their crowd are: Major George W. Steele, G. H. Shideler, Senator C. C. Lyons, Senator S. L. Strider, A. C. Alexander, Doctor G. D. Knapp, Doctor M. M. West, Grant Bentler, Gus Condo, C. W. Halderman, A. E. Steele, E. H. Ferres, P. B. Manly, Pearl Boggs, H. A. Goss, Dr. A. A. Hamilton and J. Wood Wilson.

Mr. Beck has many friends rallying about him to-night, but they are not so numerous as the Steele forces. Among the leaders with him now are: Major George W. Steele, W. Adams Logan, C. E. Cowell, W. H. Freeman and Lincoln Gwyn. Wabash, Doctor G. H. Good and others. The Steele forces are: John M. Johnson, Henry McGill and Senator J. G. Powell, Logansport; John S. Glenn, Huntington, and Senator J. C. Gochenour, New Manchester.

North Branchford or Cass county people were in evidence this evening. Of the Miami county leaders who are taking an active hand in the fight John F. Lawrence, Giles W. Smith, A. L. Bodurtha, Frank W. Beers, A. C. Beers, G. J. Beers and Dr. Jared Spooner are arrayed with the Neal cohorts while John J. Adams, Louis Baker, John Zabus and James F. Stutesman are looking after the Beck forces here.

TO BE CALLED AT 11 A. M.  
The convention will be opened in Webb's Opera House at 11 o'clock this forenoon. District Chairman Beck will call the assembly to order and present Warren G. Sayre, the veteran politician and legislator of Wabash, as temporary chairman. Committees on organization and rules, cre-